



Workshops  
& Activities  
Convention 2026

# Activities and Opportunities

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## **Convention Eucharist & Confirmation Service**

All clergy are invited to vest and process for the Convention Eucharist and Confirmation Service beginning at 3:15pm on Saturday, September 12th. Cassock, surplice, and white stole preferred; however, alb and stole are acceptable. Clergy should plan on vesting following the close of the business meeting and may hang vestments in the coat racks on the Narthex of the Great Hall.

## **12-Step Meetings**

A 12-step meeting will be held on Friday and Saturday morning at 7:00am in the Great Hall Room B. From the Narthex, go past the men's restroom and follow the hallway to the back of the Great Hall.

## **Disc Golf & Trails**

Our disc golf course is a great way to spend some time outdoors, moving around our property! Our trails offer a picturesque opportunity to explore property while being immersed in nature. Maps may be obtained from the Welcome Center. We have a few discs to borrow or you can bring your own.

## **Fishing**

During open season, guests of our property are welcome to fish our pond and lake! Stocked with several different varieties of fish, guests are welcome to catch and release. Bring your own equipment.

## **Sports**

Guests may use our tennis/pickle ball court as well as basketball hoop. Equipment is stored in the shed at the court.

## **Barry House Theological Library**

Barry House Library is a great spot for reading and contemplation. There is a quiet prayer room and thousands of books for your use.

Need help? CtK Front Desk 518-692-9550

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# Pre-Convention Session: Thursday

## 4:00pm

### **Creating Space: Simple Habits for Connecting with God**

Led by Heidi Bonacquist · Healing Center Chapel

Dallas Willard says, "Hurry is the greatest enemy in our spiritual life today." Join Heidi in learning the importance of slowing down and creating space for daily connection with God. Learn some simple practices that will allow you to connect with God on a regular basis and deepen your relationship with Him.

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### **From Wonder to Witness: A Story of Becoming & Belonging**

Led by The Rev. Dr. Caroline Carson · The Great Hall Room B

Join the "The Parson Carson" as she shares about the sacred art of storytelling through holy attentiveness in nature, poetry, music, and other arts. Together, we will explore missional engagement as an invitation to listen deeply to the stories of all whom we encounter, to share our own stories of faith through meaningful expression, and to recognize ourselves within God's wider story, understanding these practices as forms of evangelism. We will then turn toward welcome and hospitality, exploring the work of the Holy Spirit in creating spaces of belonging where God is already at work, inviting us to move from wonder to witness and from encounter to connection.

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### **Setting the Table: How to Prepare Spiritually for Ministry**

Led by The Rev. Cn. Dr. Meaghan Keegan - King's Inn Great Room

By nature we want to be people who "do". We are goal oriented and thrive on action and productivity. We are eager to see the fruit of our labors. This leads us to rush through the prayer and preparation that's needed before we go out into the harvest. Using the wisdom of spiritual leaders and writers of our past, we will look at the ministry model of Jesus, who gives us an important rhythm to follow: solitude > community > ministry. This workshop will share this rhythm through the lens of the Diocese of Albany's Albany Blooms Thriving Parish Initiative and discuss ways you and your parish can spiritually prepare for ministry.

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# Session 1: Friday 9:45am

## **Rethinking Welcome: Including People with Disabilities in Parish Life. Really."**

Led by Patti Gibbons for the All Are Able Task Force · The Great Hall Room B

This workshop is a practical and guilt-free opportunity to understand the church's calling to serve all people and become a Christian community that creates opportunities for people of all abilities to discover and live out their role as essential members of the Body of Christ.

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## **Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations**

Led by Bishop Robert Schnase · CtK Chapel

Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-taking Mission and Service, Extravagant Generosity. These core practices foster a strong congregational missional identity that unifies and empowers leaders and volunteers. The practices bring clarity of purpose and inspire boldness to initiate new ministries. Join us as we discuss how the Five Practices reshape communities of faith toward a more outward focused ministry.

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## **Library Tour**

Led by Jacob Jordan · Barry House Theological Library

Did you know that Christ the King now has a large theological library? We do! It is located at Barry House and is open to anyone. We have a wide collection of books covering topics such as church history, theology, biblical studies, Christian education, the arts, philosophy, and more! Want a Bible commentary? We have plenty! Need a book for one of the Diocese classes? We have it! Just looking for a fun theology book to read? Come find one! We have almost 6,000 items and are slowly adding more. Interested? Come to this workshop to Get a tour of the Barry House Theological Library, Open a patron account, Learn how to request books from home and more!

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# Session 2: Friday 11:00am

## **A Scriptural Paradigm for Parish Revitalization**

Led by The Very Rev. Desmond Francis · Healing Center Chapel

Most, if not all parish leaders and members desire for their parish to be vital, exuberant, radiant, glorious and healthy. Ephesians 5:22-25, Acts 2:42-47, and Acts 13:1-3, provide a prescriptive paradigm for parish revitalization. "Come and see," what necessary and indispensable practices result in our parishes spiritual revitalization for the glory of God and the affirmation of His Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

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## **Discussion Regarding Communion Between the United Methodist Church and The Episcopal Church**

Led by Bishop Jeremiah Williamson and The Very Rev. Scott Garno · CtK Chapel

Bishop Jeremiah and Fr. Scott will discuss items being considered at the 2027 General Convention, including work towards the United Methodist Church and The Episcopal Church moving towards full communion.

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## **Church Pension Workshop for Retirees**

Led by Paul Luce, Church Pension Group - Healing Center Conference Room

An Enriching Your Retirement (EYR) session focused on helping retirees make the most of their Church Pension Group benefits. We will cover the Group Medicare Advantage Plan, dental benefits, clergy tax resources, and the valuable ancillary benefits available to participants. Time will be reserved for questions and discussion.

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## **Holy Yoga**

Led by Shannon Beckwith - King's Inn Great Room

Holy Yoga is a ministry bringing the Gospel to our community and beyond using the modality of poses, meditation of scripture, and resting in God's presence. It is a experiential worship of our Lord Jesus Christ using our whole bodies. Each class is intentionally created to deepen our connection to our Living God. Holy Yoga is accessible to everybody. Everyone, regardless of age or ability is welcome. We do have some yoga mats, but if you have your own, please bring it along.

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# Session 3: Friday 1:15 pm

## **Telling Your Story in Today's World**

Led by members of the Loaves and Fishes team · Great Hall Room B

In a rapidly changing digital landscape, ministries need fresh tools to share their mission with clarity and impact. This workshop explores practical, accessible strategies for modern outreach—from using AI to strengthen messaging to navigating social media with purpose. Participants will learn how to communicate their story in ways that connect, inspire, and expand their reach, no matter their starting point.

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## **Nurturing Children's Relationship with God: Baptism, Eucharist, and Liturgical Gestures in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd**

Led by The Rev. Maureen Demler & Gaby Gastelum · Healing Center Chapel

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a Montessori approach to religious formation of the child from ages 3 through 12. Recognizing that children are born with a relationship to God, it holds that children must be given holy tools and language to nurture their relationship with God. The Catechesis uses the aids of Scripture and Sacrament given in carefully discerned and tested presentations. At this workshop, we will share Catechesis materials and demonstrate how we present the Altar, liturgical, and Sacramental gestures to the children.

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## **The Practice of Radical Hospitality**

Led by Bishop Robert Schnase · CtK Chapel

What does it mean for congregations and Christian disciples to practice Radical Hospitality in a highly polarized culture where fewer and fewer people are searching for a church to belong to? Christian hospitality is more than getting people to come to church or providing a warm welcome to those who show up. Join us as we discuss how we carry the hospitality of Christ with us with greater intentionality in our neighborhoods, work life, and affinity networks.

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## **Church Pension Workshop for Active Lay Employees**

Led by Paul Luce, Church Pension Group - Healing Center Conference Room

An overview of CPG medical benefits available to active lay employees, including plan options, coverage features, and ancillary benefits. We will also touch briefly on the Lay Defined Contribution Retirement Plan, explain how it works, and provide time for participant questions.

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# Session 4: Friday 2:30 pm

## **Loaves & Fishes — Back to Basics**

Led by members of the Loaves and Fishes team · The Great Hall Room B

Discover the heart of Loaves & Fishes Outreach Ministries: who we are, what we do, and why our ministry matters. This workshop offers a clear, inspiring look at our work feeding neighbors with dignity and compassion, the values that guide us, and the many ways individuals and congregations can join in. Whether you're new to the ministry or seeking fresh ways to engage, this session will ground you in the essentials and open doors for meaningful involvement.

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## **Creating Space: Simple Habits for Connecting with God**

Led by Heidi Bonacquist · Healing Center Chapel

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## **Church Pension Workshop for Active Clergy**

Led by Paul Luce, Church Pension Group - Healing Center Conference Room

An overview of CPG medical benefits available to active clergy, including the medical plans, how they work, and the ancillary benefits available through each option. We will also provide a high-level overview of the Clergy Pension Plan and the Retirement Savings Plan (RSVP), explaining how these retirement benefits work together. Time will be available for brief questions and discussion.

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## **From Wonder to Witness: A Story of Becoming & Belonging**

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## Session 5: Saturday 10:00 am

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## Session 6: Saturday 1:00 pm

### **Rethinking Welcome: Including People with Disabilities in Parish Life. Really.**

Led by Patti Gibbons for the All Are Able Task Force · The Great Hall Room B

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### **Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations**

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# Visit the Exhibit Hall

Located in the Great Hall

Exhibitors include:

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Barry House Library

Beaver Cross Ministries

Susan Bowman, Author

Daughters of the King

Education for Ministry

Episcopal Diocese of Albany Mission Committee & International Market

Episcopal Relief and Development

Gently used vestment and liturgical items

Loaves and Fishes

Sanctuary Diocese Task Force

United Thank Offering

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## Visit the Gift Shop in the Welcome Center

open daily 9am-6pm



Need help? CtK Front Desk 518-692-9550



# CONVENTION CELEBRATION!!!

**LIVE MUSIC BY  
MARTY WENDELL & FRIENDS**

**SALEM BOYSCOUT  
CHICKEN BBQ**

**CTK'S COLOSSAL  
SALAD BAR**

**THE FUN BEGINS AT 4:30PM**

RELAX, CONNECT, AND ENJOY THE MOMENT TOGETHER



